

Response to Rejection of Claims 8-27 under Obviousness Double Patenting

1. According to the office action, claims 8-15 and 19-17 are rejected under the judicially doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9, 10, 12, 13 and 15 respectively of U.S. Patent No. 6,762,677, and claims 16-18 are rejected under the judicially doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9, 10 and 15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,762,677 in view of Handfield (US 5,581,023).

2. The applicant submits a terminal disclaimer herewith, in compliance with 37CFR1.321(c), to disclaim the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on instant application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of prior Patent No. 6,762,677, in order to overcome the rejection of the claims 8-27 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9, 10, 12, 13 and 15 of the U.S. Patent No. 6,762,677.

The Cited but Non-Applied References

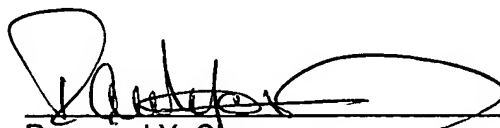
3. The cited but not relied upon references have been studied and are greatly appreciated, but are deemed to be less relevant than the relied upon references.

4. A check in an amount of US\$65.00 is submitted herewith to pay the terminal disclaimer. This amount is believed to be correct; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502111.

5. In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are requested. Allowance of claims 8-27 at an early date is solicited.

6. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed in order to place the application in condition for allowance, he is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

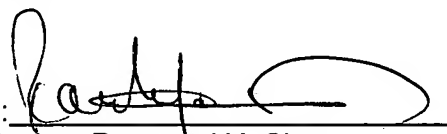


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this corresponding is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by First Class Mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on the date below.

Date: 08/26/2005

Signature: 
Person Signing: Raymond Y. Chan